GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5190
ANSWERED ON:20.04.2001
ENTERING OF TERMINATOR SEEDS INTO INDIA
M. JAGANNATH

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether terminator seeds are being dumped legally or illegally in India;

(b) if so, whether the Government could not prevent terminator seed from entering into India; and

(c) if so, the action taken / proposed to be taken against the `seed of sorrow` from entering into India?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN)

(a) to (c) : Imports of genetically modified seeds which include terminator seeds, require authorization of the Government of India under the provisions of Indian Environment (Protection) Act (EPA), 1986 and the Rules, 1989.Considering that terminator seeds are not beneficial for the Indian environment, an Order has been issued by the Ministry of Agriculture in May 1998 banning the import of such seeds. The Indian EPA has adequate provisions for taking punitive action against parties introducing any such seeds without authorization.